

City of Somerville, Massachusetts City Council

Regular Meeting Agenda

Thursday, June 13, 2024 7:00 PM City Council Chamber and Remote Participation

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NOTICE: Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, this meeting of the City Council may be conducted via remote participation. We will post an audio recording, audiovideo recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of these proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting on the City of Somerville website and local cable access government channels.

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1. OPENING CEREMONIES

1.1. Roll Call Call of the Roll. (ID # **24-0915**)

1.2. Remembrances Remembrances. (ID # 24-0916)

1.3. Minutes Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May (ID # 24-0917) 9, 2024.

2. CITATIONS

2.1. Citation By Councilor Strezo

(ID # 24-0906) Commending the Community Growing Center for 30 years of service and commitment to green spaces.

3. PUBLIC HEARINGS

3.1. Grant of Location (ID # 24-0862) Eversource applying for a Grant of Location to install 102 feet of conduit in Revolution Drive from Manhole #26211 to a point of pickup at the intersection of Revolution Drive and Assembly Square Drive.

3.2. Grant of Location Cambridge Network Solutions applying for a Grant of (ID # **24-0863**)

Location to install 60 feet of conduit in Mystic Avenue from existing Eversource Manhole #22835 to a proposed Handhole, then continuing to a point of pickup at Utility

Pole #249/9 located near 75 Mystic Avenue.

3.3. Grant of Location Cambridge Network Solutions applying for a Grant of (ID # **24-0864**)

Location to install 43 feet of conduit in Mystic Avenue from existing Eversource Manhole #22834 to a proposed Handhole, then continuing to Utility Pole #249/4 located

near 29 Mystic Avenue.

4. ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

4.1. By Councilor Clingan Order

> That the Director of Mobility daylight the corner of (ID # 24-0901)

> > Maple Avenue and School Street.

4.2. Order By Councilor Clingan

> That the Director of Public Space and Urban Forestry (ID # 24-0911)

> > provide this Council's Committee on Equity, Gender, Seniors, Families and Vulnerable Populations with an update on the inclusive playground swing project being worked on in collaboration with parent advocates.

4.3. Resolution By Councilor Clingan

> That the Administration provide this Council with an (ID # 24-0910)

> > up-to-date report on the financial activity of the

Handicapped Parking Violation Fees fund.

4.4. Resolution By Councilor Clingan, Councilor Wilson and Councilor

(ID # **24-0902**) Strezo

> That the Administration hold a community meeting within the next 30 days to address the impacts of the missing United States Postal Service mail, and the overall lack of mail delivery in various parts of

Somerville.

4.5. Order By Councilor Wilson and Councilor McLaughlin

That the Executive Director of the Office of Strategic (ID # **24-0909**) Planning and Community Development update this

> Council on the possibility of receiving additional federal financing for transit-oriented development through the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act

(TIFIA 49) initiative and the potential eligibility of

projects in Somerville.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5.1. Mayor's Request Requesting approval of a conveyance and grant of easement for Leonard Grimes Park at 31 Tufts Street. (ID # **24-0656**)

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES 6.

6.A. CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS AND PERSONNEL MATTERS COMMITTEE

6.A.1. Committee Report Report of the Committee on Confirmation of (ID # **24-0885**) Appointments and Personnel Matters, meeting on June 11, 2024.

Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Alyssa 6.A.2. Mayor's Request DuBois to the Board of Health. (ID # 24-0581) RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.

6.A.3. Mayor's Request Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Margaret (ID # **24-0582**) H. Coit to the Board of Health.

RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.

6.A.4. Mayor's Request Requesting confirmation of the promotion of Matthew (ID # **24-0803**) Kane to the position of Fire Lieutenant. RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.

Requesting confirmation of the promotion of Michael 6.A.5. Mayor's Request Finnegan to the position of Fire Lieutenant. (ID # **24-0804**) RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.

6.B. HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

6.B.1. Committee Report Report of the Committee on Housing and Community (ID # 24-0884) Development, meeting on June 11, 2024.

Requesting approval of the proposed 2024-2028 6.B.2. Mayor's Request Department of Housing and Urban Development 5-Year (ID # **24-0636**) Consolidated Plan, One Year Action Plan, and

Community Participation Plan for Community Development Block Grant, Home Investment Partnership, and Emergency Solutions Grant programming.

RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.

6.B.3. Order By Councilor Clingan

That the Director of Infrastructure and Asset (ID # **24-0664**)

> Management address the structural safety and rodent issues with the city-owned building on Skilton Avenue. RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work

completed.

6.B.4. Order By Councilor Clingan

(ID # 24-0665) That the Director of Infrastructure and Asset

Management devise and share with this Council a long-term plan for the city-owned building at 10 Skilton

Avenue.

RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work

completed.

6.C. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

6.C.1. Committee Report Report of the Committee on Legislative Matters, meeting

(ID # **24-0881**) on May 28, 2024.

6.C.2. Ordinance By Councilor Burnley Jr.

(ID # 23-1461) Amending Section 12-116 of the Code of Ordinances to

create a Safe Streets ordinance, to expedite protected

bike lanes.

RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved as

amended.

6.D. PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

6.D.1. Committee Report Report of the Committee on Public Health and Public

(ID # <u>24-0883</u>) Safety, meeting on June 5, 2024.

6.D.2. Order By Councilor Burnley Jr.

(ID # 24-0451) That the Director of Health and Human Services update

this Council on the plan to prioritize the deployment of masks and tests to reduce the spread of COVID-19. RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work

completed.

6.E. SCHOOL BUILDING FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

6.E.1. Committee Report Report of the Special Committee on School Building

(ID # <u>24-0882</u>) Facilities and Maintenance, meeting on May 29, 2024.

6.E.2. Order By Councilor Ewen-Campen

(ID # 24-0534) That the Director of Infrastructure and Asset

Management provide a report to the School Building Facilities and Maintenance Special Committee with a risk assessment identifying and analyzing major risks to

projects the department is currently overseeing.

RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work

completed.

6.E.3. Order By Councilor Ewen-Campen

That the Commissioner of Public Works and the (ID # **24-0535**) Administration discuss with the School Building

> Facilities and Maintenance Special Committee, the status of science lab spaces at Somerville Public Schools and what is being done to safely reopen any closed lab features following a gas leak reported at the West

Somerville Neighborhood School.

RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work

completed.

6.E.4. Order By Councilor Ewen-Campen

> (ID # **24-0536**) That the Commissioner of Public Works discuss with the

> > School Building Facilities and Maintenance Special Committee, the installation of a floor cover for the gymnasium at Somerville High School to prevent damage to the floor and to expand the gym's usability to

non-athletic events.

RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work

completed.

6.E.5. Order By Councilor Ewen-Campen

> (ID # <u>24-0537</u>) That the Commissioner of Public Works report to the

> > School Building Facilities and Maintenance Special Committee on the timeline and progress toward installing water and electrical access at the Benjamin G. Brown

School schoolyard.

RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be marked work

completed.

7. COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

7.1. Mayor's Request Requesting ordainment of an amendment to the Code of Ordinances to add Sections 8-375 through 8-381 to (ID # **24-0716**)

promote and enforce safer construction practices.

7.2. Mayor's Request Requesting authorization to borrow \$1,271,785 in a (ID # **24-0876**) bond, and to appropriate the same amount for the

purchase of Fire Pumper apparatus.

7.3. Mayor's Request Requesting the appropriation of \$1,001,750.89 from the (ID # **24-0859**)

Facility Renovation Stabilization Fund for continuing

building design services.

7.4. Requesting the appropriation of \$78,148.40 from the Mayor's Request

Street Reconstruction Stabilization Fund for continuing (ID # **24-0860**) street, sidewalk, and pavement condition assessment and

design services.

7.5.	Mayor's Request (ID # <u>24-0769</u>)	Requesting approval of a time-only contract extension of four months for PMA, LLC for Owner's Project Manager services for the Somerville High School project.
7.6.	Mayor's Request (ID # <u>24-0770</u>)	Requesting approval of a time-only contract extension of four months with Symmes Maini & McKee Associates, Inc. for design services for the Somerville High School project.
7.7.	Mayor's Request (ID # <u>24-0771</u>)	Requesting approval of a time-only contract extension of five months for Suffolk Construction for Construction Manager services for the Somerville High School project.
7.8.	Mayor's Request (ID # <u>24-0857</u>)	Requesting approval of a transfer of \$927,590.89 from the Infrastructure and Asset Management (IAM)-Capital Projects Engineering & Architecture Account to the Facility Renovation Stabilization Fund for continuing building design services.
7.9.	Mayor's Request (ID # <u>24-0900</u>)	Requesting approval of a transfer of \$109,428 from the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (OSPCD) Planning, Preservation and Zoning Division Professional Services account to the OSPCD Administration Division Legal Services account to pay outstanding legal fees related to the 90 Washington Street litigation.
7.10.	Mayor's Request (ID # <u>24-0856</u>)	Requesting approval of a transfer of \$78,148.40 from the Infrastructure and Asset Management (IAM) -Engineering & Architecture Account to the Street Reconstruction Stabilization Fund for continuing street, sidewalk, and pavement condition assessment and design services.
7.11.	Mayor's Request (ID # <u>24-0858</u>)	Requesting approval of a transfer of \$74,160 from the Infrastructure and Asset Management (IAM)-Capital Projects Professional & Technical Account to the Facility Renovation Stabilization Fund for continuing building design services.
7.12.	Mayor's Request (ID # <u>24-0853</u>)	Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$4,573.32 grant with no new match required, from the Department of Environmental Protection to the Department of Public Works (DPW) for the Recycling Dividend Program.

8.2.

Officer's

Communication (ID # 24-0854)

7.13.	Mayor's Request (ID # <u>24-0852</u>)	Requesting approval to accept and expend a non-monetary grant with no new match required, from the Department of Energy Resources to the Office of Sustainability and Environment for technical assistance for writing a municipal building decarbonization roadmap.
7.14.	Mayor's Request (ID # <u>24-0896</u>)	Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$750 using available funds in the Human Resources Advertising account for advertising costs of vacant positions.
7.15.	Mayor's Request (ID # <u>24-0897</u>)	Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$181.92 using available funds in the Human Resources Professional and Technical Services account for confidential paper shredding services.
7.16.	Mayor's Request (ID # <u>24-0895</u>)	Requesting confirmation of the promotion of James M. Donovan to the position of Deputy Police Chief.
7.17.	Mayor's Request (ID # <u>24-0894</u>)	Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Christopher Johnson to the position of Firefighter.
7.18.	Mayor's Request (ID # <u>24-0861</u>)	Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Jacob Luria to the Municipal Job Creation and Retention Trust Fund Board of Trustees.
7.19.	Mayor's Request (ID # <u>24-0912</u>)	Requesting approval of the Surveillance Technology Impact Report for use of an Unmanned Aerial System at the 2024 Somerville Police Department Junior Police Academy.
7.20.	Mayor's Communication (ID # <u>24-0813</u>)	Proclaiming the week of May 12 through May 19, 2024 to be Taiwanese American Heritage Week.
7.21.	Mayor's Communication (ID # <u>24-0904</u>)	Proclaiming that Saturday, June 22, 2024 is Arbor Day in the City of Somerville.
8.	COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS	
8.1.	Officer's Communication (ID # <u>24-0776</u>)	Director of the Office of Sustainability and Environment conveying information regarding item #24-0575, a grant from the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center.

#24-0416.

Planning Board conveying recommendations for item

8.3. Officer's Director of Water and Sewer conveying the FY 2025 Water & Sewer Rate proposal. Communication (ID # **24-0913**) 9. **NEW BUSINESS** 9.1. New Drainlayer's License, MC Excavation Inc. License (ID # 24-0865) 9.2. License Renewing Flammables License, Cumberland Farms (ID # **24-0868**) #2469, 701 Somerville Ave. 9.3. License Renewing Flammables License, Speedway #02513, 709 McGrath Hwv. (ID # **24-0867**) 9.4. License Renewing Flammables License, Winter Hill Yacht Club, (ID # **24-0866**) 500 Artisan Way. 9.5. License Renewing Garage License, Boston Sand and Gravel Company, 492R Rutherford Ave. (ID # 24-0871) 9.6. License Renewing Garage License, Drain Doctor, Inc, 612 (ID # 24-0870) Broadway. 9.7. License Renewing Garage License, Four Wheels Auto, 83A (ID # **24-0869**) Albion St. 9.8. License New Outdoor Parking License, DM Collision Center LLC, 30 Joy St., 40 vehicles. (ID # **24-0874**) 9.9. License Renewing Outdoor Parking License, Star Markets (ID # 24-0875) Company #2575, 275 Beacon St., 3 vehicles License Renewing Taxi Medallion, Early Bird Transportation, 9.10. LLC, Med. #49. (ID # **24-0872**) 9.11. License Renewing Taxi Medallion, Sadel and G Transportation, Inc., Med. #70. (ID # 24-0873) 9.12. Public Event Veterans Department applying for a Public Event License for PFC John J. Hayden, Jr. Hero Square (ID # **24-0908**) Dedication on June 1 from 10am to 12pm. 9.13. Public Event Veterans Department applying for a Public Event License for Mary F. MacDougall Considine Hero Square (ID # **24-0907**) Dedication on June 1 from 12pm to 2pm.

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9.14.	Public Event (ID # <u>24-0893</u>)	Rosa Carson applying for a Public Event License for Friday Dance Hour on June 14, June 28, July 5, July 12, July 19, August 2, August 9, and August 30 from 5:30pm to 7:30pm.
9.15.	Public Event (ID # <u>24-0891</u>)	Janine Fay applying for a Public Event License for Dancing in the Street on June 20 from 5pm to 9:30pm.
9.16.	Public Event (ID # <u>24-0914</u>)	Koryn Zammuto applying for a Public Event License for 4th of July Celebration at The Public on June 27 from 2pm to 10:30pm (raindate June 28).
9.17.	Public Event (ID # <u>24-0879</u>)	Camberville Community Music applying for a Public Event License for Marion St. BP on June 30 from 10am to 8pm.
9.18.	Public Event (ID # <u>24-0892</u>)	Glen Maganzini applying for a Public Event License for Kids Like You and Me's Summer Showdown! on July 6 from 12pm to 7pm (raindate July 7).
9.19.	Public Event (ID # <u>24-0880</u>)	St. Benedict Parish applying for a Public Event License for A Mile with Jesus on July 7 from 12pm to 1:30pm.
9.20.	Public Event (ID # <u>24-0878</u>)	Aaron Greiner applying for a Public Event License for Parkdale St BP on July 13 from 11am to 7pm (raindate July 14).
9.21.	Public Event (ID # <u>24-0877</u>)	East Somerville Main Streets applying for a Public Event License for Summer in the Park on July 27 from 1pm to 7pm (raindate July 28).
9.22.	Public Communication (ID # <u>24-0855</u>)	Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) conveying the alteration of location of a section of State highway.
9.23.	Public Communication (ID # <u>24-0898</u>)	Emily Duquette submitting comments re: item #24-0641, a Zoning Map Amendment for the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA).
9.24.	Public Communication (ID # <u>24-0899</u>)	13 individuals, including 9 residents, submitting comments re: items #24-0680 and #24-0679, a Zoning Map and Zoning Text amendment to create the Somernova Innovation Sub-Area.

10. SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

10.1. Order By Councilor McLaughlin
(ID # 24-0923) That the Commissioner of Public Works replace the trash barrel on Broadway and Macarthur Street.

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10.2.	Order (ID # <u>24-0920</u>)	By Councilor McLaughlin That the Director of Inspectional Services provide the Ward 1 City Councilor with any tickets and fines associated with the Home Depot, Circuit City, and the surrounding area in the past ten years.
10.3.	Order (ID # <u>24-0921</u>)	By Councilor McLaughlin That the Director of Inspectional Services inspect the Home Depot, Circuit City, and surrounding area for code violations and report back to the Ward 1 City Councilor.
10.4.	Order (ID # <u>24-0924</u>)	By Councilor McLaughlin That the Director of Inspectional Services (ISD) provide the Ward 1 City Councilor with a list of all ISD tickets issued in Ward 1 on May 6, 2024.
10.5.	Order (ID # <u>24-0922</u>)	By Councilor McLaughlin That the Director of Parking place SLOW CHILDREN and NOT A THROUGH STREET signs on Alston Street by the corner of Cross Street.
10.6.	Order (ID # <u>24-0925</u>)	By Councilor McLaughlin That the Director of Parking discuss the policy around restricted parking signs during construction and how to limit negative impacts in the community.
10.7.	Mayor's Request (ID # <u>24-0905</u>)	Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$3,847.47 using available funds in the Department of Public Works Buildings Natural Gas account for Edgerly School natural gas.
10.8.	Public Communication (ID # <u>24-0918</u>)	Alexander Mathews submitting comments re: rent control.
10.9.	Public Communication (ID # 24-0919)	Susan Lee submitting comments re: items #24-0680 and #24-0679, a Zoning Map and Zoning Text amendment to create the Somernova Innovation Sub-Area.

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10.10. Public

Communication (ID # 24-0926)

Karen Thurston submitting comments re: parking.

11. ADJOURNMENT